

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BANGKO 13938 161248Z  
ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 EB-08 CTME-00 COME-00 ICA-20  
H-02 /043 W

-----112059 180519Z /15

R 160920Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4582

UNCLAS BANGKOK 13938

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ESTC, EFIN, CB  
SUBJ: IMPORTATION OF CAMBODIAN ART OBJECTS

REF: STATE 120747

1. RTG IMPORT STATISTICS LIST \$16,177 WORTH OF "WORKS OF ART AND ANTIQUES" AS HAVING BEEN IMPORTED FROM CAMBODIA IN 1975. SINCE THAT YEAR THAI CUSTOMS RECORDS SHOW NO IMPORTS OF ANY ART WORKS AND ANTIQUES.

2. A SENIOR CUSTOMS OFFICIAL HAS INFORMED THE EMBASSY THAT CAMBODIAN ART OBJECTS MOVE SLOWLY ON THE LOCAL MARKET, AND THUS MANY OBJECTS MAY REMAIN ON THE SHELVES A LONG TIME BEFORE BEING SOLD. THE CUSTOMS OFFICIAL ALSO EXPLAINED STOCKS OF CAMBODIAN WORKS OF ART HAVE BEEN ACCUMULATING HERE OVER MANY YEARS AND HAVE NO RELATIONSHIP TO PRESENT POLITICAL REALITIES.

3. WITH REGARD TO SMUGGLING, THIS OFFICIAL ALSO OPINES THAT IT HAS BEEN VERY DIFFICULT TO GET THINGS OUT OF CAMBODIA SINCE 1975; THUS ONLY A NEGLIGIBLE VOLUME OF ART WORKS HAS BEEN COMING INTO THAILAND SINCE THAT TIME. HE COULD GIVE NO ESTIMATED BREAKDOWN BY CATEGORY AND VALUE.  
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARTS, DATA, IMPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BANGKO13938  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION TRSE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014